



# INTER ALIA...

The Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia

INTER ALIA...

## A Message from the Attorney General

### Inside this issue:

Outreach to the Elderly 2

A Reduced Backlog in Child Protection 2

One OAG Employee's Little Russian Connection 3

Training Dates 4

OAG Testimony can be found Online at: [www.oag.dc.gov](http://www.oag.dc.gov) — click on News Room



Colleagues -

I am pleased to inform all of you that earlier this month that the Council of the District of Columbia passed the FY 2006 Budget Support Act of 2005 (Act).

In April of this year, I testified before the Committee on the Whole regarding The Budget Support Act, Titles III

(B)(Legal Service Amendments) and V(E) (Child Support Pass Through Establishment), and conveyed to the members of the committee the importance of bringing within the control of OAG the day-to-day management and financial oversight of some 90 Legal Service Attorneys in the 23 subordinate District agencies currently under the umbrella of OAG. Until passage of the Act, OAG controlled the legal policies and positions taken by agency lawyers, but had little administrative authority.

The measure will further align the Office of the Attorney General by streamlining the duties of OAG subordinate agencies, ultimately making OAG more efficient in its services

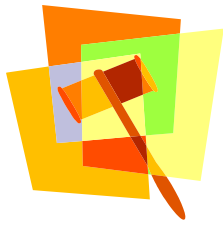
to the residents of the District of Columbia. I thank the Council for their thoughtful consideration in passing the measure. Also, a public note of appreciation of the efforts of the Legal Counsel Division in drafting the OAG-related provisions of the Act.

— Robert J. Spagnoletti



AG Spagnoletti speaking to members of the North Columbia Heights Civic Association while Councilman Graham looks on. (July 6, 2005)

## Cases and Legislation



The Civil Litigation Division hit a home run in the case of *Robert Siegel v. District of Columbia*. Judge Alprin granted the District's motion to dismiss the suit. The plaintiffs in the suit own properties and operate businesses in Southeast D.C. — the same area of the proposed baseball stadium site. Judge Alprin agreed with the city's position that the Court lacked subject matter jurisdiction to hear the case, saying Mr. Siegel and others have adequate remedy for compensation should their properties be affected. The Court also found the case was not ripe for review because the District has not yet invoked its right of eminent domain. Assistant Attor-

ney General Dan Rezneck argued the case on behalf of the District. Other similar suits are likely.

◆◆◆

The tap is dry at Club U. The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC Board) voted in June to revoke the liquor license of Club U. The District called numerous witnesses who testified about violent instances in and around the club, including a murder. Assistant Attorneys General Walter Adams and David Lastra put in countless hours on the case. The ABC Board found that the licensee allowed the club to be used for a disorderly purpose and that there was a correlation between the operation of the club and an increase in incidents of crime within a thousand

feed of the establishment.

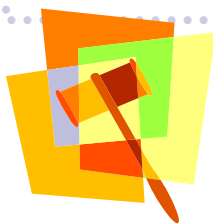
◆◆◆

A monumental achievement by the Child Protection Sections (CPS). The Termination and Parental Rights Section, comprised of Assistant Attorneys General and support staff in CPS, working closely with social workers from Child and Family Services Agency, cleared a backlog of termination of parental rights cases in only seven months. From December 2004–June 2005, AAG's and social workers addressed a backlog of 448 cases. It was an extraordinary collaborative effort by OAG and CFSA, which has improved relations between the two agencies and has boosted credibility with the court monitor in the Lashawn class action lawsuit.



Deputy Attorney General Catherine Motz was a hit with the students attending the National Student Leadership Conference on the campus of American University (June 29, 2005).

## Notables



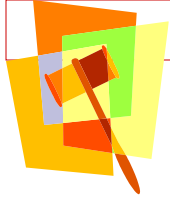
A happy ending comes full circle for Assistant Attorney General Lindsay Hoffman. Ms. Hoffman handled every aspect of one of the first cases she received as an AAG — the case of a little girl left at birth at a local hospital. The baby was immediately placed with a family who had two sons. Ms. Hoffman saw the case through to the end, including papering, the neglect trial

and termination of parental rights trial — both of which she won. On May 25th, the adoption was finalized, and Ms. Hoffman met the child first time (she's now two-years-old) along with her two brothers and her grandparents! Ms. Hoffman could not have said it better when summing up the case, saying it "ended beautifully."

◆◆◆

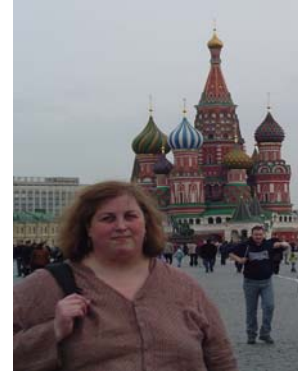
Assistant Attorney General Nick Majett helped to develop the curriculum for Senior Citizens taking part in the Metro-

politan Police Department's Senior Citizen Police Academy. AAG Majett and Assistant U.S. Attorney Kathleen O'Connor presented a three hour course on Fourth Amendment issues, making arrests, intake of cases, and maneuvering through the court system. The course was very well received by the seniors taking part in the program.



## Of Interest...

Zdravstvuite (ZzDRAST-vet-yah)! A special Russian greeting of “Hello” to the newest member of the OAG family. On July 20, 2005, AAG Anne Hollander and her husband, David Van Camp, will become the proud parents of two year old Elizavetta – a Russian orphan. It’s been a long road from Russia to the U.S. for little Eliza, who has been in an orphanage in the town of Arkhangelsk in northwest Russia (near Finland) since birth. Anne and her husband began the adoption process two years ago, by researching some 20 agencies, before finally settling on a local adoption agency which specializes in international adoptions. In addition to finding an agency, Anne and David are now on official file with the FBI, INS and the State Department to ensure they meet all legal requirements for bring Eliza home. When asked how it feels to adopt, Anne says “We’ve been hoping for a child for some time. It’s adding to our large and loving family... it’s a great gift to our family and an opportunity to assist a child in need.”



A. Hollander in the Red Square



The Child Support Services Division is holding its 2nd Annual Camp CSSD, and informational camp for parents. The camp will be held every Wednesday of this month, and will include seminars on child and medical support, physical fitness and tips on healthy eating tips.

**July 13, 2005** for residents of Wards 1, 2 and 3 at 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 550 North (Judiciary Square)

**July 20, 2005** for residents of Wards 7 and 8 at Greater Southeast Community Hospital, 1310 Southern Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20002

**July 27, 2005** for residents of Wards 4, 5 and 6 at 441 4<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 550 North (Judiciary Square)



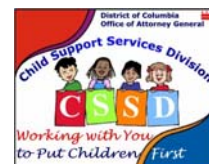
OAG interns: Ian Shattner, Michelle Hutton and Brian Willis

There are plenty of new faces at OAG. Welcome to all of our interns!!! There are more than 100 interns working in nearly every division in OAG. Students from high school to graduate school are opting out of the lazy hazy days of summer, to lend their talents to OAG.

## Around Town

The Child Support Services Division is offering amnesty to parents who have fallen behind on their child support payments. It’s a tri-jurisdictional effort by the District, Maryland and Arlington County. The official kickoff for the Amnesty Program is July 29, 2005 at 10am on Freedom Plaza.

**Amnesty is August 1—13th.**





July 29

Amnesty Kickoff

**Training Dates\*\***

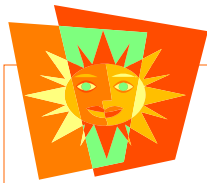
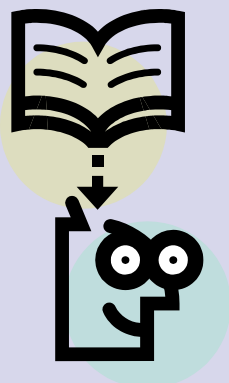
July 2— MS  
Word & Excel  
2003 I (CWD)

July 4— Creativ-  
ity & Problem  
Solving (CWD)

July 9-10— Ba-  
sic writing I  
(CWD)

July 9-11— MSS  
Leadership  
Principles &  
Practices  
(CWD)

July 23— MS  
PowerPoint  
2003 (CWD)



# August 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Child Support Amnesty	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 End of Child Support Am- nesty
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Last day of Line Atty. Rating Period			

\*\* The list of classes is not exhaustive. Please consult Paulette Andrews, Training Coordinator at (202 724-7149 for a complete list of classes offered.



**Need Help Coping — Don't Do It Alone!**

**The District of Columbia  
Government Work and Family Employee  
Assistance Program  
is here to help**

For more information or immediate assistance, call:

Local: 202.682.5240  
Long Distance: 1.800.841.7406  
TDD: 1.800.628.7644  
Fax: 202.628.5111  
[www.cope-inc.com/dc-eap](http://www.cope-inc.com/dc-eap)  
[eap@cope-inc.com](mailto:eap@cope-inc.com)

Provided by COPE Incorporated



**The Office of the Attorney  
General for the District of  
Columbia**

John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 409  
Washington, D.C. 20004  
Phone: 202-727-3400  
Online at: [www.oag.dc.gov](http://www.oag.dc.gov)



The Office of the Attorney General  
for the District of Columbia (OAG)  
handles all suits instituted by or  
against the District of Columbia.

**In Memory....**



Erias Hyam, former Act-  
ing Corporation Counsel,  
and Legislative Counsel

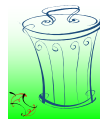


Congratulations to AAG Lindsay Hoffman and her husband, who welcomed their first child —  
Raymond Hoffman on 6/11/05.

New grads in the Child Support Services Division: Dawn Christie received her Masters in  
Social Work from Howard University; Yvette Marbury-long received her Bachelor of Arts in  
General Studies



OAG brings people together in a special way: AAG David Hyden and Deputy Attorney General  
Teresa Quon are engaged to be married!



**REMINDER! Help keep the District clean . Support Clean & Green DC.  
For more information call. (202 ) 727-1000.**

Editorial Assistance provided by:  
Michelle Hutton (Intern, OAG Immediate Office)